



**PRE-FILING REVIEW for the
SASABE LATERAL PROJECT
Docket No. PF12-11-000**

The Project: Sasabe Lateral Project

El Paso Natural Gas Company (El Paso) has announced its intention to construct and operate 60 miles of new 36-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline, a new meter station, as well as other appurtenant facilities near Tucson, Arizona. The pipeline would link El Paso's existing South Mainline System near Tucson to the U.S.-Mexico border near the town of Sasabe, Arizona. The planned project is referred to as the Sasabe Lateral Project.

The project would provide additional natural gas export capability of between 160 and 210 million cubic feet of natural gas per day to Mexico, where the gas would be used for power generation. El Paso plans to begin construction in early 2014.

El Paso is currently considering two routes for the pipeline: the West Route and the East Route. The West Route would be located on private and state lands. The East Route would be located on private, state, and federal lands. The East Route would traverse the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) is the federal agency charged by Congress with determining whether interstate natural gas pipeline projects, such as the Sasabe Lateral Project, are in the public convenience and necessity. The information below explains the FERC's environmental review process for the proposed Sasabe Lateral Project and how you can get involved early in that process.

The Process: A "Pre-Filing" Environmental Review has Begun

The FERC is the lead federal agency responsible for conducting the environmental review of interstate natural gas pipeline projects in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As part of this process, the FERC will prepare a detailed environmental analysis for the Sasabe Lateral Project. The FERC will use the analysis to consider the environmental impact that could result if it issues El Paso a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity under sections 3 and 7 of the Natural Gas Act.

The Sasabe Lateral Project is in the preliminary planning phase – the precise details have not yet been finalized and a formal application has not been filed with the FERC. However, the FERC has initiated a pre-filing, or pre-application, environmental review of the Sasabe Lateral Project to allow early involvement by citizens, governmental entities, and other interested parties.

The purpose of the pre-filing review is to encourage involvement by interested stakeholders in a manner that allows for the early identification and resolution of environmental issues. During pre-filing, the FERC staff will notify affected landowners, citizen groups, governmental entities, and other interested parties of the Sasabe Lateral Project and will request comments from them. You can make a difference by providing the FERC with your specific comments or concerns about the Sasabe Lateral Project during the pre-filing process.

The FERC staff will work with all interested stakeholders to identify and attempt to address issues prior to the time when El Paso files its application with the FERC.

On June 5 and 6, 2012, the FERC staff will participate in public open houses sponsored by El Paso in Pima County, Arizona to explain the environmental review process to interested stakeholders.

Shortly after the open houses, the FERC staff will issue a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental document for the Sasabe Lateral Project. The notice will be sent to affected landowners, jurisdictional agencies, governmental entities, Native American tribes, citizen groups, local libraries and newspapers, and other interested parties. The NOI will also be published in the Federal Register. The notice will provide a description of the proposed Sasabe Lateral Project, discuss the environmental issues identified to date, and request comments or concerns about the Sasabe Lateral Project. If the FERC staff determines that public scoping meeting(s) are necessary, the date, time, and location of the meeting will also be included in the notice.

Additionally, any FERC-sponsored scoping meetings or site visits for the Sasabe Lateral Project will be posted on the Commission's calendar located at www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx along with other related information.

Your Input Is Valued

Early involvement by you and others will help the FERC staff evaluate the Sasabe Lateral Project's potential impact on the environment. Please help this process work by providing the FERC with comments and concerns about the potential environmental impact of the Sasabe Lateral Project. You can also contact El Paso directly by phone at 1-877-598-5263 or by email at dan.gredvig@elpaso.com with your specific comments or concerns about the Sasabe Lateral Project.

Your comments to the FERC will be most useful if they focus on the potential environmental effects of the proposal, alternatives to the proposal (including alternative locations and routes), and measures to avoid or lessen environmental impact. The more specific your comments, the more useful they will be. Comments that you submit to the FERC during the pre-filing process will be part of the public record and will not have to be resubmitted after El Paso files its formal application with the FERC.

How to Share Your Comments and Concerns with the FERC

For your convenience, there are three methods that you can use to submit your comments to the Commission. In all instances, please reference the Sasabe Lateral Project docket number (PF12-11-000) with your submission. The Commission encourages electronic filing of comments and has expert eFiling staff available to assist you at (202) 502-8258 or efiling@ferc.gov.

(1) You may file your comments electronically by using the "eComment" feature, which is located at www.ferc.gov under the link called "[Documents and Filings](#)." eComment is an easy method for interested persons to submit text-only comments on a project.

(2) You may file your comments electronically by using the "eFiling" feature that is listed under the "[Documents and Filings](#)" link. eFiling involves

preparing your submission in the same manner as you would if filing on paper, and then saving the file on your computer's hard drive. You will attach that file to your submission. New eFiling users must first create an account by clicking on the links called "[Sign up](#)" or "[eRegister](#)." You will be asked to select the type of filing you are making. A comment on a particular project is considered a "Comment on a Filing."

(3) You may file a paper copy of your comments at the following address:

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

How to See What Else Is Filed with the FERC

To see what information has been filed with the FERC regarding the Sasabe Lateral Project, go to the FERC website at www.ferc.gov and use the "eLibrary" link. Select "General Search" from the eLibrary menu and enter the docket number (i.e., PF12-11) in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range and

follow the instructions. Searches may also be done using the phrase "Sasabe Lateral Project" in the "Text Search" field. For assistance with access to eLibrary, use FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or the FERC telephone helpline at 1-866-208-3676 (TTY contact 202-502-8659).

How to Contact El Paso

To request additional information on the Sasabe Lateral Project or to provide comments directly to the Sasabe Lateral Project sponsor, you can contact El Paso by phone at 1-877-598-5263 or by email at dan.gredvig@elpaso.com. Also, El Paso has established an Internet website at <http://www.elpaso.com/sasabelateral/> or http://www.kindermorgan.com/business/gas_pipelines/projects/sasabelateral/.

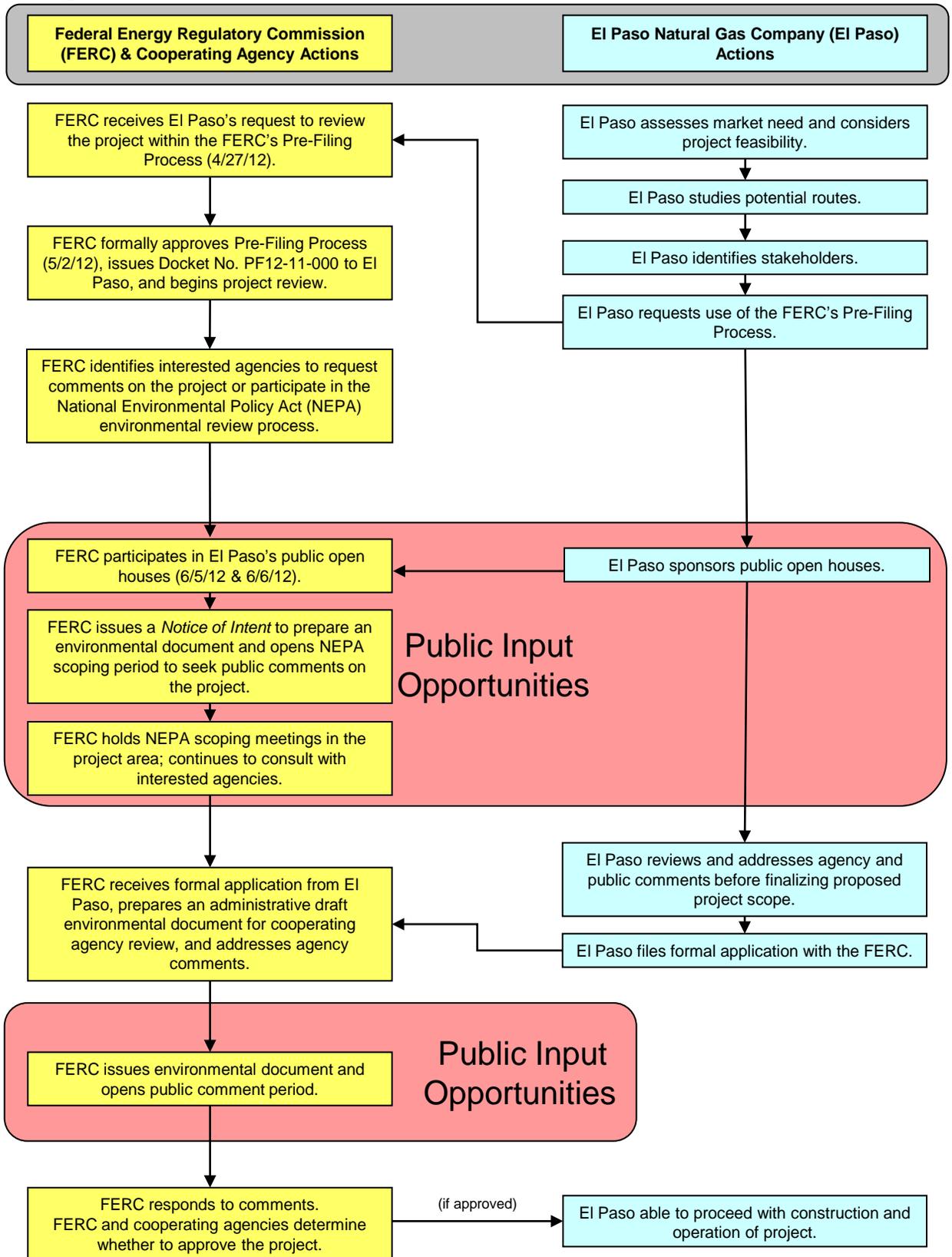
project materials and maps, frequently asked requests and responses, and links to related documents. El Paso will update the website as the environmental review of its Sasabe Lateral Project proceeds.

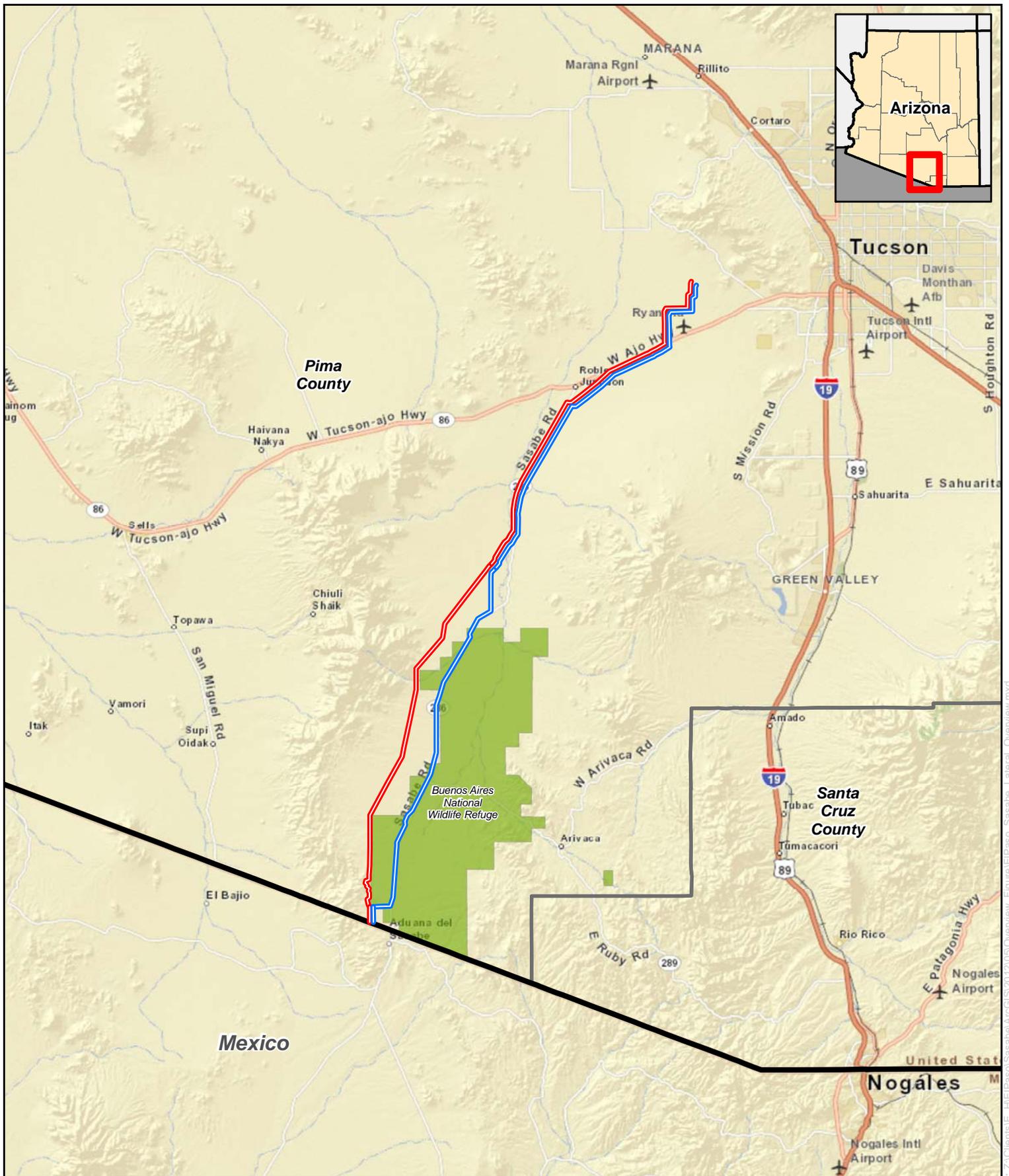
The website includes a description of the Sasabe Lateral Project, viewing locations for



FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sasabe Lateral Project Environmental Review Process





**El Paso Natural Gas Company
Sasabe Lateral Project
Project Overview Map**



- East Route
- West Route